

Torrance, California
September 17, 1943

MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR
MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in an Adjourned Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Friday, September 17, 1943, at 5:00 P.M.

Mayor McGuire called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll; those answering present being Councilmen: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. Absent: Councilmen: None.

Being an Adjourned Regular Meeting, the regular order of business was dispensed with.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett read the written opinion prepared by the City Attorney, relative to the construction of sidewalks at City expense abutting on private property.

After going into the legal aspects of the situation, the City Attorney summed up his Opinion as follows:

"It is my opinion that the City has the legal power to lay out, construct and pay for sidewalks within the City when such improvement is for the benefit of the City as a whole, and then only if the expenditure can come out of the ordinary annual income and revenue of the City."

The above legal opinion had been requested by the Council on September 14th in connection with a request from the Doak Aircraft Company that the City aid in the construction of a sidewalk connecting the walk in front of their property with the existing sidewalk to the north.

Attorney McCall further stated that it is not usual for a City to build sidewalks abutting on private property, unless there was a sidewalk there previously.

Engineer Jain advised that there had been a sidewalk for a part of distance, which had become covered over with dirt, and was broken up by heavy equipment going over it.

Councilman Cucci said he thought the City would be setting a dangerous precedent by doing this work, and if it isn't a repair job it should not be done.

After some further discussion it was suggested that the Council recess and a personal inspection made to determine the exact condition which exists.

Engineer Jain then brought up the matter of the extension to the sewer, which had been requested by the Doak Aircraft Company, and stated that he wouldn't recommend running any more six inch lines as a main lateral. He said he had taken the matter up with the Doak Aircraft Company and recommended that the City give them a permit to lay a four inch line over City property to connect to their present line.

Councilman Hitchcock suggested that action on this matter be deferred until after the recess and personal inspection.

Engineer Jain advised that Southwest Homes, Inc., who are constructing homes on 203rd and 204th Street, in the Shoestring Strip, are having trouble getting sewage connection. He stated the Defense Plant Corporation sponsored this project with the understanding

that they could connect into the old Hughes Mitchell 10" sewer line which parallels the 24" sewer line constructed by the Defense Plant Corporation, but that this line is now being used to its full capacity so is not available to them.

He said there are two alternatives open to them; one, to go north and connect into the 21" sewer owned by the Defense Plant Corporation, or to go west and connect into the 24" sewer line constructed by the Defense Plant Corporation and dedicated to the City of Torrance; the simplest and cheapest plan being the latter method, due to the shorter distance.

Mr. Jain said he advised against contracting with any subdivider or any other individual or corporation, except another City, for utilities such as this, which have an indefinite life. He advised the subdividers to approach the City of Los Angeles and secure their approval to the drawing of a contract between the two cities to cover maintenance and operation of the combined sewer system.

He stated, however, that there is a clause in the present contract between the City of Torrance and the Defense Plant Corporation which allows the two parties to the agreement to collect sewage only from territory within their present boundaries, which would preclude the City from going outside the City boundaries to collect any sewage. Inasmuch as the City had insisted on a definite allocation of sewage capacity in the 24" sewer trunk line, and as the uses to which it may be put are unknown at the present time, he advised the City to require that their allotment of sewage capacity be increased to cover any additional amount of sewage which is to be handled.

He said he had contacted the County Sanitation Department and asked them if they would take over the entire line, and they advised they would be glad to do so if the Defense Plant Corporation would turn the line over to them with complete control of operation, maintenance and allocation of capacity under the jurisdiction of the County Sanitation District. This, he advised would probably not be acceptable to the Defense Plant Corporation.

Mr. Jain further advised that he had written a letter to the Board of Public Works of the City of Los Angeles, making the following recommendations:

- (1) That the capacity allocated to the City of Torrance shall be increased by an amount sufficient to handle the sewage from this subdivision.
- (2) That no additional sewage will be allowed into this line without additional capacity being granted to the City by the Defense Plant Corporation, or its successors to cover same.
- (3) That the Quitclaim and Agreement between the Defense Plant Corporation and the City of Torrance be amended to allow the City of Torrance to accept sewage into their portion of the line from territory outside the boundary lines of the City of Torrance.
- (4) That a contract agreement be entered into between the City of Los Angeles and the City of Torrance, providing for the maintenance by the City of Los Angeles of all that portion of the sewer system lying within the City of Los Angeles.
- (5) That no additional sewage shall be permitted to be dumped into the lateral collection system lying within the present boundaries of the Southwest Homes, Inc. area without an additional agreement between the City of Los Angeles and the City of Torrance.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Engineer be authorized to enter into negotiations with the City of Los Angeles for sewer service to the Southwest Homes, Inc. subdivision on 203rd and 204th

Streets in the Los Angeles Shoe String Strip, with the stipulation that the increased sewage emptied into our lines be allowed us by the Defense Plant Corporation, and in accordance with the conditions outlined in letter of September 17, 1943, from Engineer Jain to the Board of Public Works of the City of Los Angeles. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Engineer Jain recommended that the City Yard be surfaced, as well as Huber Street leading into it, as the busses were having difficulty in getting in and out.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Engineer be authorized to place a rock and oil surfacing on Huber Street, between Torrance Blvd. and the City Yard; and also to surface the City Yard in front of the Bus Garage and out to the entrance. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 5:37 Councilman Hitchcock moved that the Council recess for twenty minutes in order that the Councilmen might go down on Abalone Avenue and personally investigate the condition of the sidewalk in the vicinity of the Doak Aircraft Company; as well as to inspect the location of the sewer extension requested by Doak Aircraft Company to connect with their new addition to their assembly building. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The Council reconvened at 6:00 P.M.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Engineer be authorized to inform the Doak Aircraft Company the City will repair and replace the sidewalk and curb on the west side of Abalone Avenue as far south as the curb now extends on the easterly side, if and when the Doak Aircraft Company constructs sidewalks, curbs and gutters in front of their property, and in addition that necessary to connect with the existing curb and sidewalk to the north; the City to furnish the supervision and to pay, when the job is completed, for that portion of the sidewalk and curb which is replaced and repaired. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request of the Doak Aircraft Company, for the construction of 125 ft. of sewer line from their new building to the now existing trunk line, be denied, and that the City Engineer be authorized to recommend to the Doak Aircraft Company that they construct their own 4" sewer line along the City parkway adjacent to their buildings to connect with their present 6" connection near the south line of Lot 8; the City Engineer to issue a written permit to construct this line on City property. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Cucci, Hitchcock, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 6:10 P.M., on motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Babcock, the meeting adjourned.


City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:


Mayor of the City of Torrance